

# **Exhibit A**

(12) **United States Patent**  
**Baker**

(10) **Patent No.: US 6,278,455 B1**  
(45) **Date of Patent: \*Aug. 21, 2001**

(54) **PICTORIAL INTERFACE FOR ACCESSING INFORMATION IN AN ELECTRONIC FILE SYSTEM**

**OTHER PUBLICATIONS**

(76) **Inventor:** Michelle Baker, 325 Riverside Dr., Apt #123, New York, NY (US) 10025

*The Complete HyperCard 2.0 Handbook*, 3rd Edition, Danny Goodman, Aug. 1990, pp. 165-168; 170-172; 313-319; and 400-402.

(\*) **Notice:** Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

\* cited by examiner

This patent is subject to a terminal disclaimer.

*Primary Examiner*—Crescelle N. dela Torre  
(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—David P. Gordon; David S. Jacobson; Thomas A Gallagher

(21) **Appl. No.:** 09/459,934

(22) **Filed:** Dec. 13, 1999

**Related U.S. Application Data**

(63) Continuation of application No. 09/003,553, filed on Jan. 6, 1998, now Pat. No. 6,002,401, which is a continuation of application No. 08/316,518, filed on Sep. 30, 1994, now Pat. No. 5,715,416.

(51) **Int. Cl.<sup>7</sup>** ..... G06F 3/14

(52) **U.S. Cl.** ..... 345/349; 345/335; 345/473

(58) **Field of Search** ..... 345/348, 349, 345/350, 351, 346, 356, 357, 335, 977, 968, 302, 113, 115, 121, 473, 435

(56) **References Cited**

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

4,601,003	*	7/1986	Yoneyama et al.	345/351
5,021,976	*	6/1991	Wexelblat et al.	345/356
5,241,671	*	8/1993	Reed et al.	707/104
5,347,628	*	9/1994	Brewer et al.	345/351
5,349,658	*	9/1994	O'Rourke et al.	345/349
5,361,173	*	11/1994	Ishii et al.	360/27
5,394,521	*	2/1995	Henderson, Jr. et al.	345/346
5,442,736	*	8/1995	Cummins	345/434
5,479,602	*	12/1995	Baecker et al.	345/349
5,524,195	*	6/1996	Clanton, III et al.	345/327
5,657,462	*	8/1997	Brouwer et al.	345/336
5,682,469	*	10/1997	Linnett et al.	345/473

(57) **ABSTRACT**

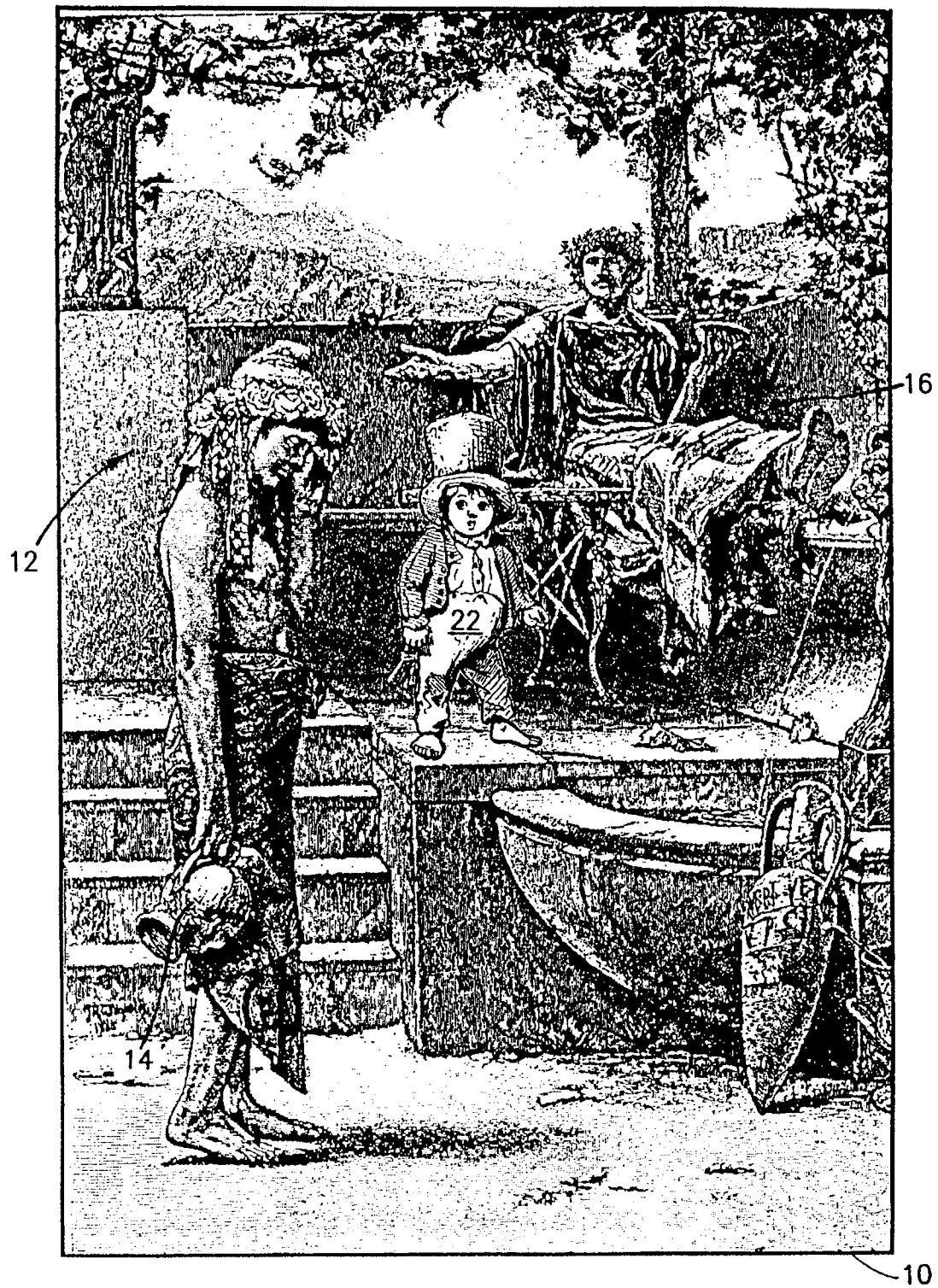
A pictorial user interface for accessing information in an electronic file system provides a pictorial image which is linked to a file directory and which identifies the file directory. Objects in the pictorial image are icons linked to file objects and an animated character is overlaid on the pictorial image. User input causes movement of the animated character relative to the pictorial image. Input from the user is preferably through a limited input device such as a gamepad controller, a mouse, or by using a limited number of keys on a normal keyboard. Input signals are mapped according to keycode identical command sets, context arguments and selection arguments. Commands that can be invoked by the user include operating system commands, pictorial object commands, and interface utility commands. Using the pictorial object commands, the user can configure the interface so that different pictures and icons are associated with different directories and files. Commands are executed with a prologue animation and an epilogue animation. The prologue animation provides feedback as to the nature of the command being executed. The epilogue animation provides feedback as to the results of the command. Animations may include actions of the animated character or the behaviour of a selected icon, or both. The interface may be applied as an overlay to virtually any operating system.

**11 Claims, 18 Drawing Sheets**

**Microfiche Appendix Included**  
(1 Microfiche, 81 Pages)



FIG. 1



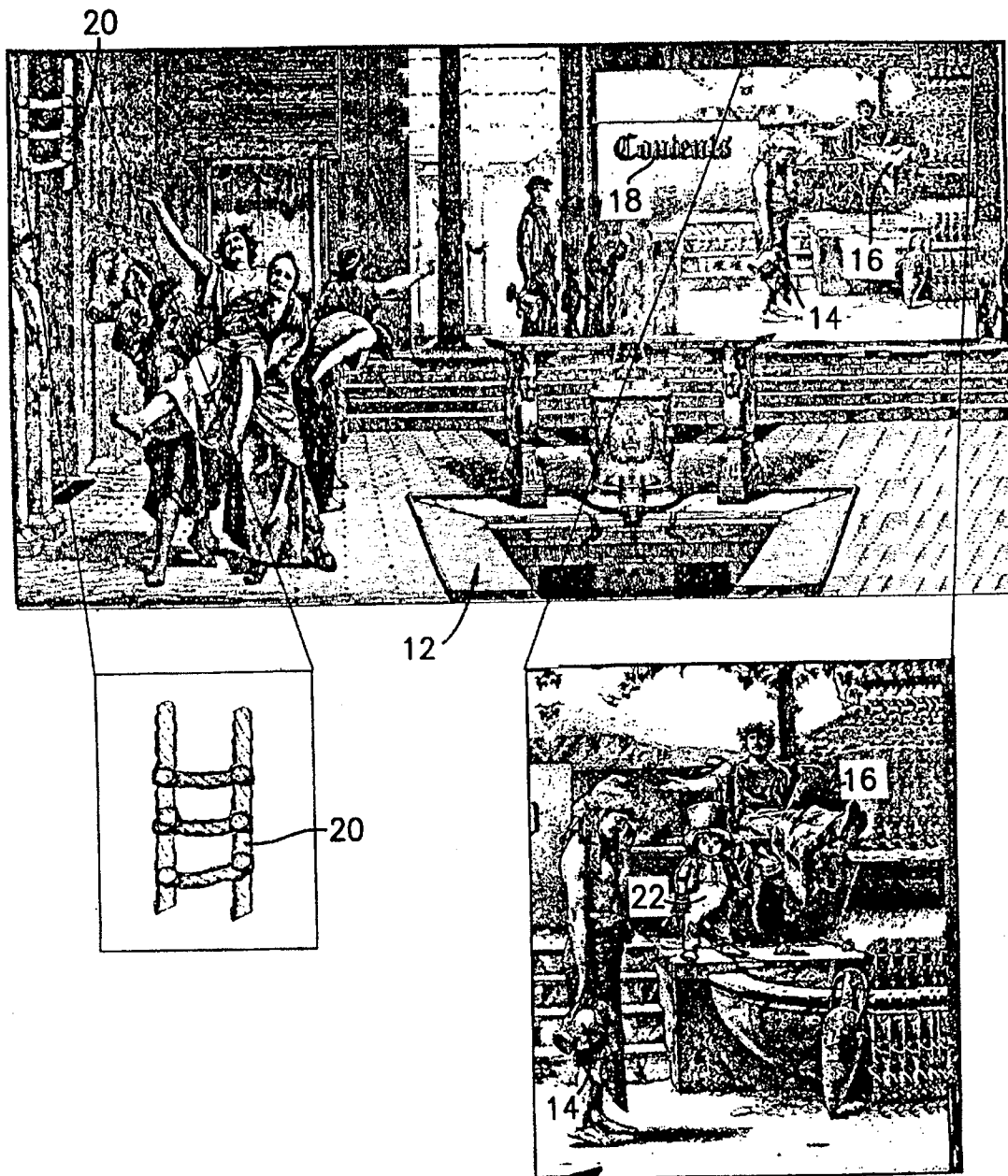


FIG. 1a

FIG. 2a

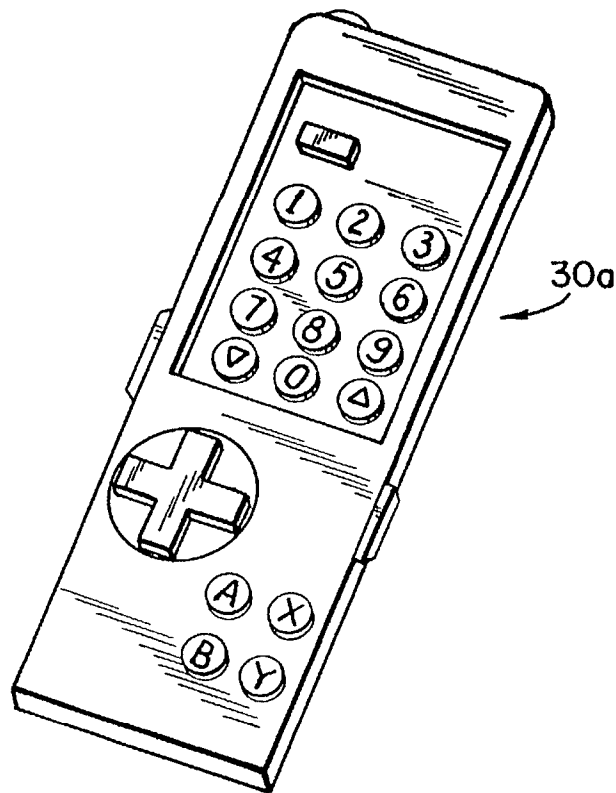


FIG. 2

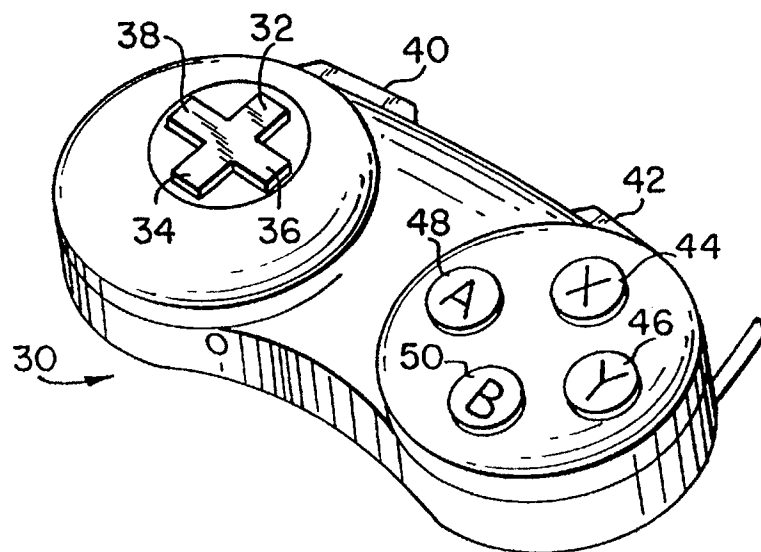






FIG. 3



FIG. 3a



FIG. 3b





FIG. 3c

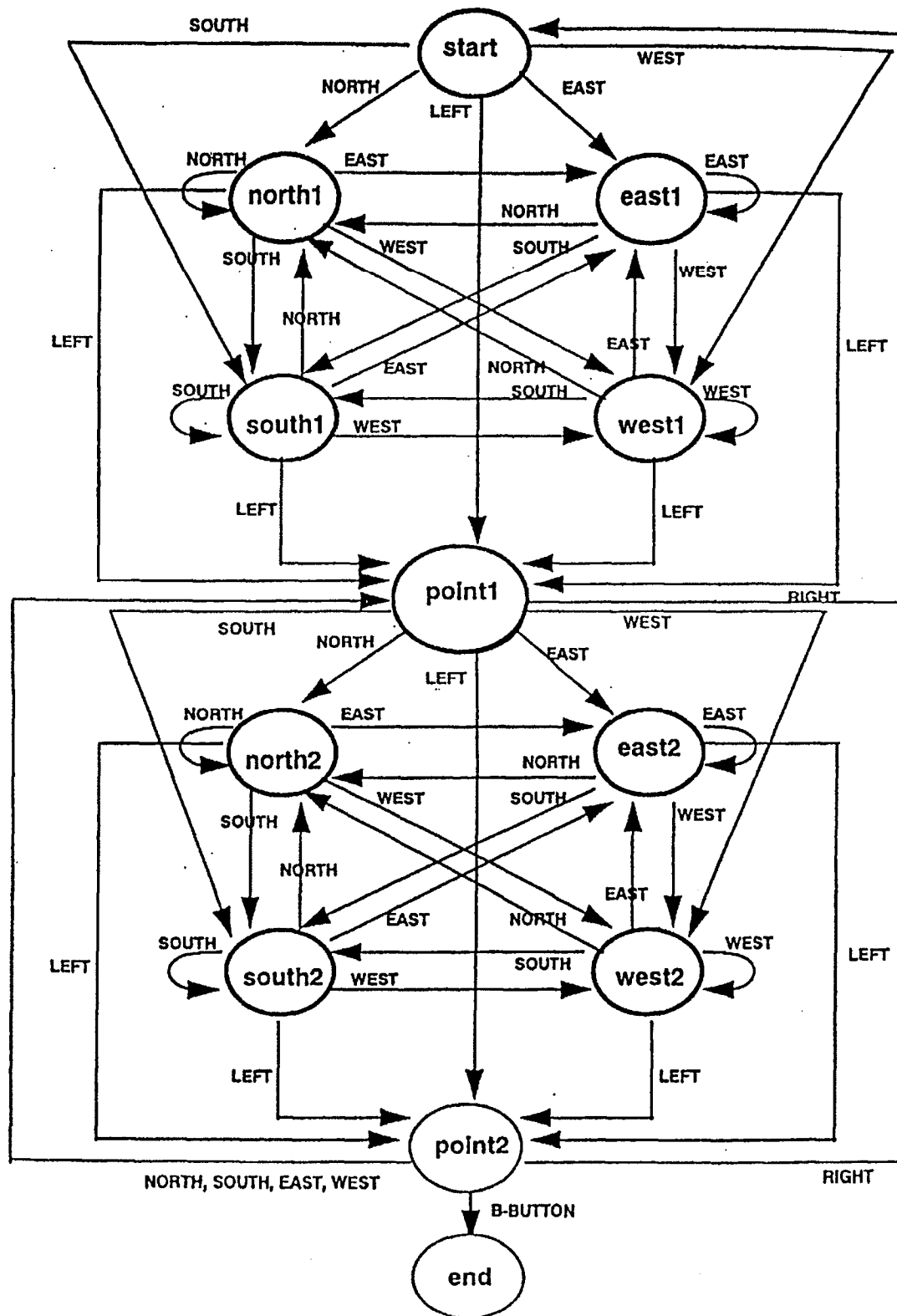


FIG. 3d

FIG. 3e

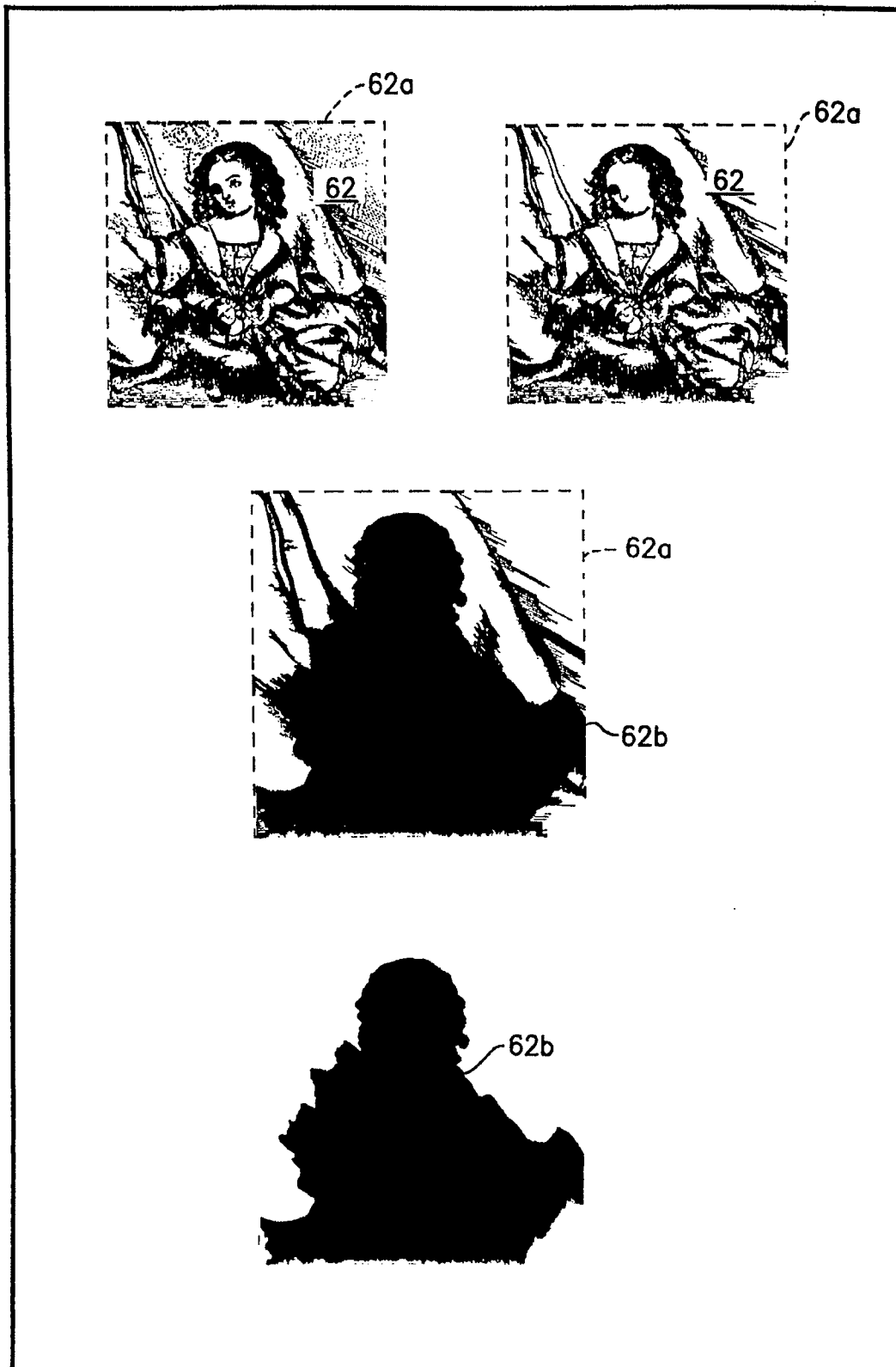


FIG. 3f



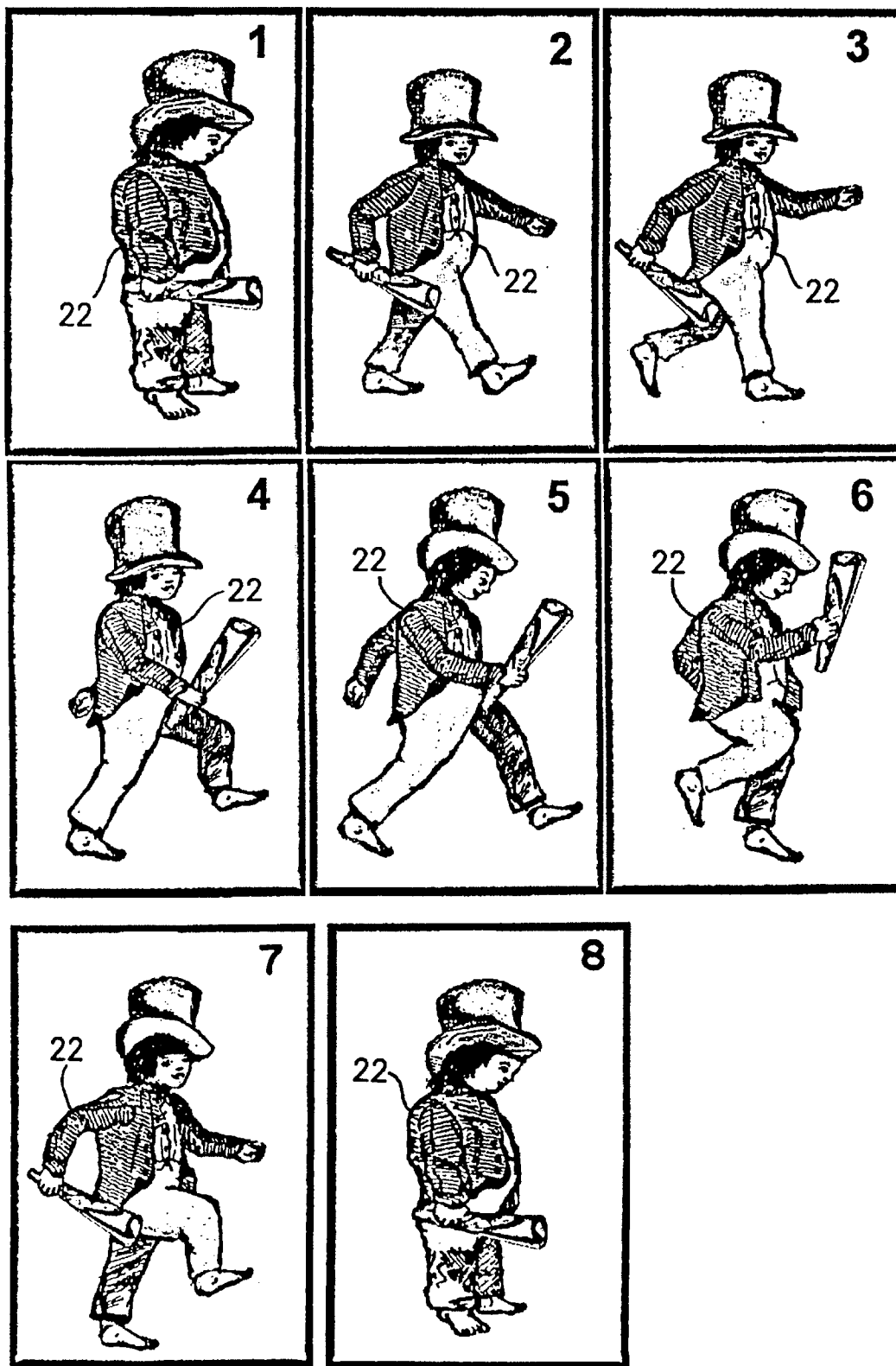


FIG. 4



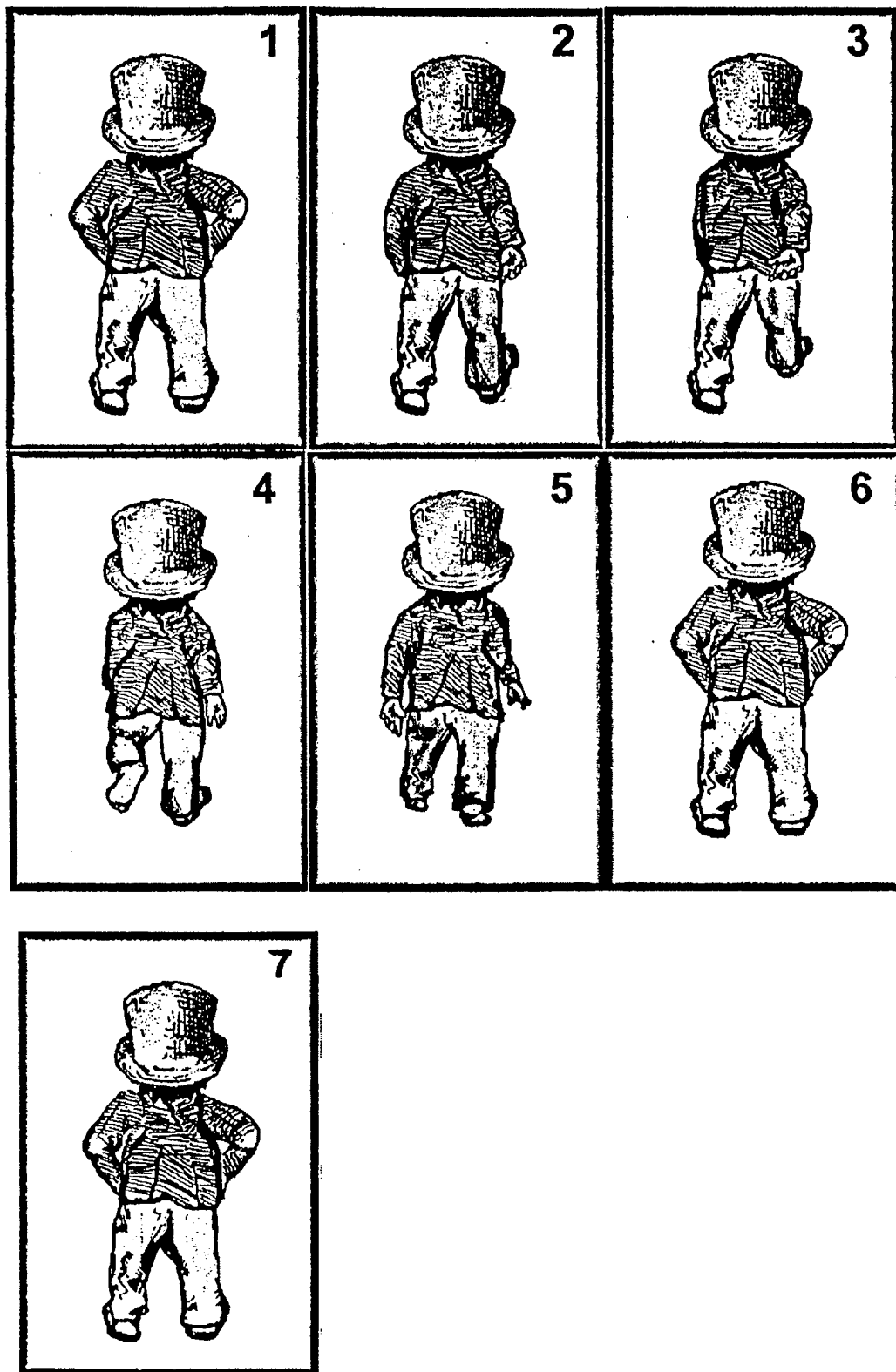


FIG. 4a

FIG. 4b

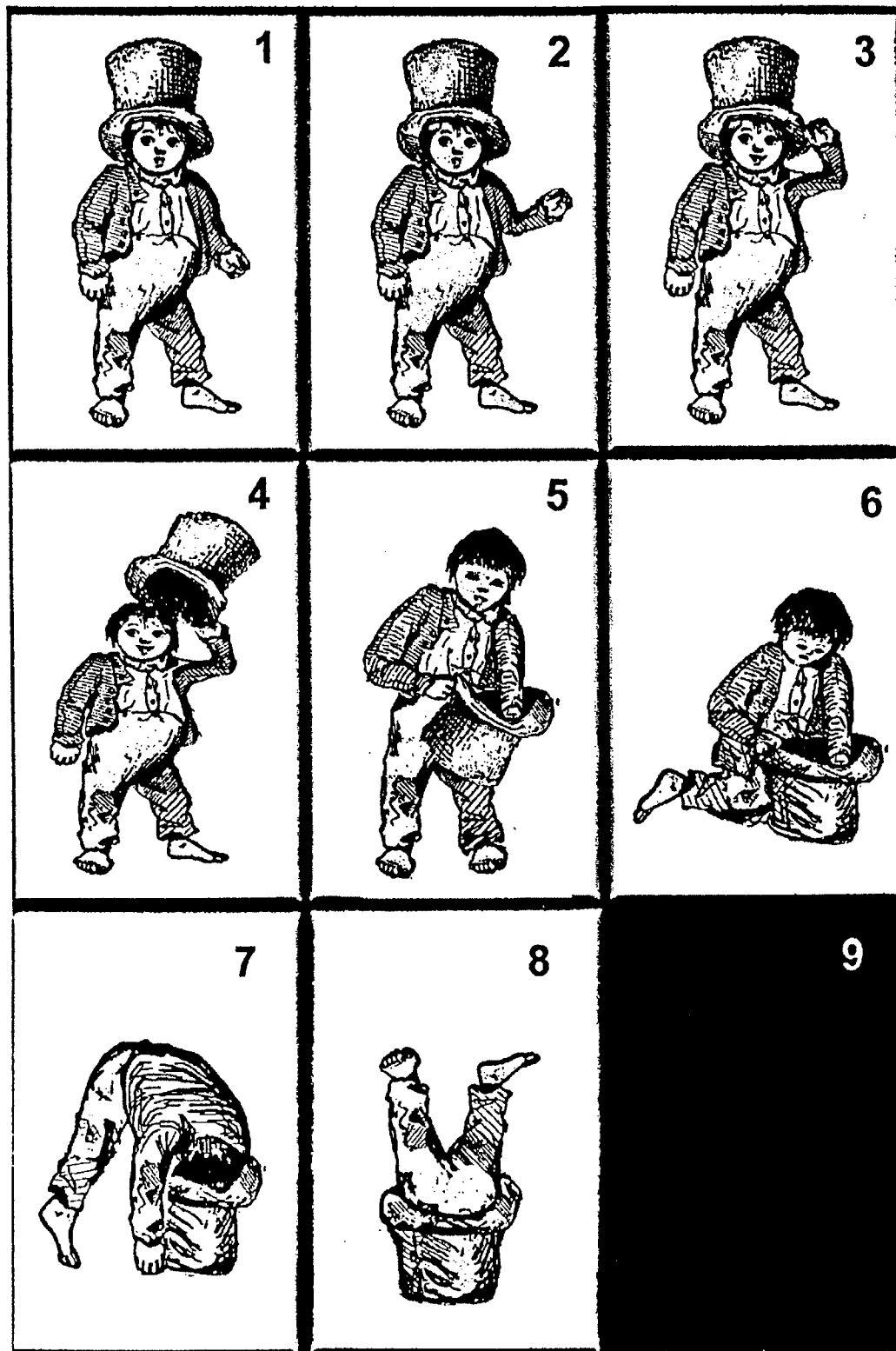
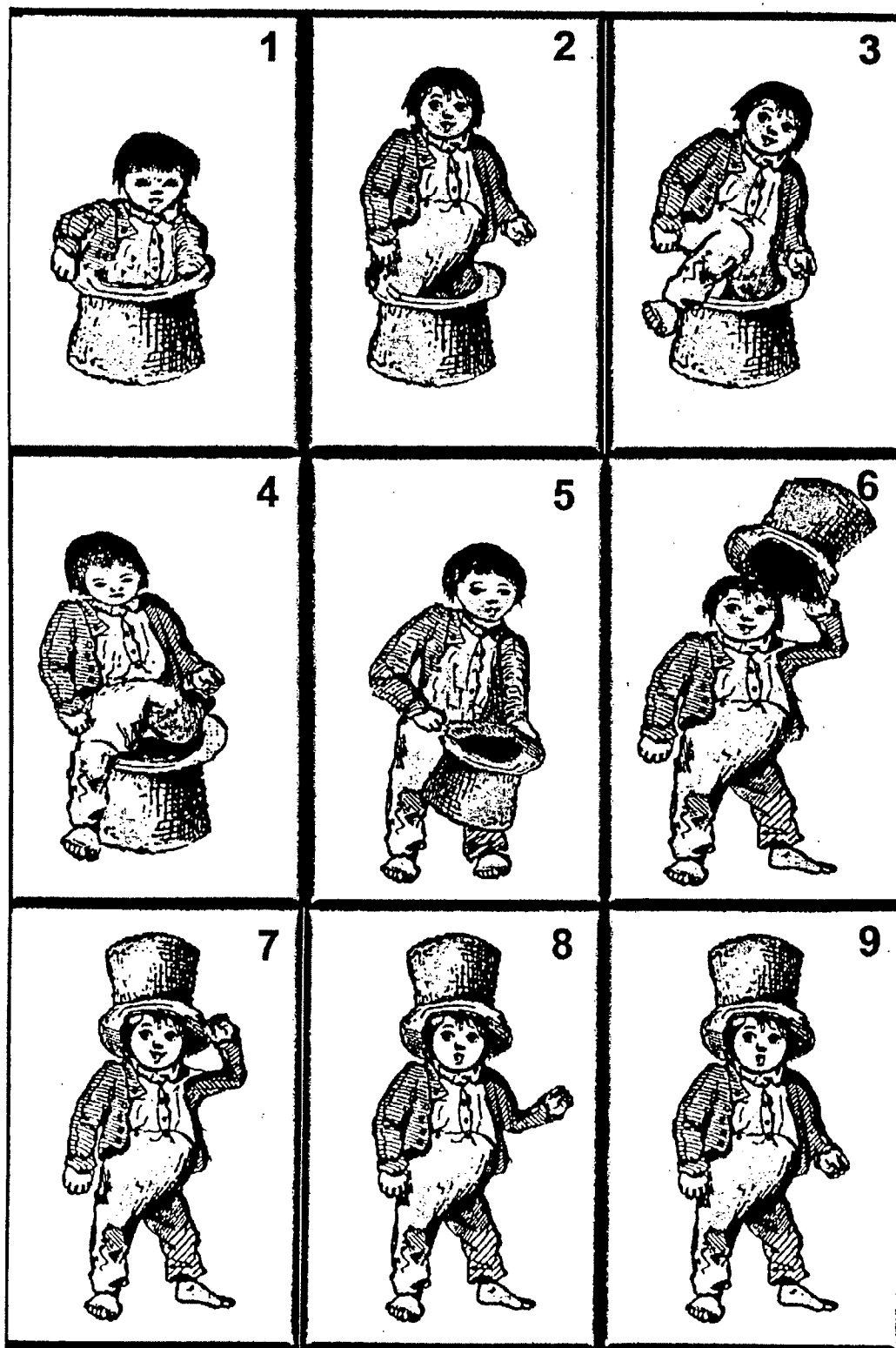


FIG. 4c



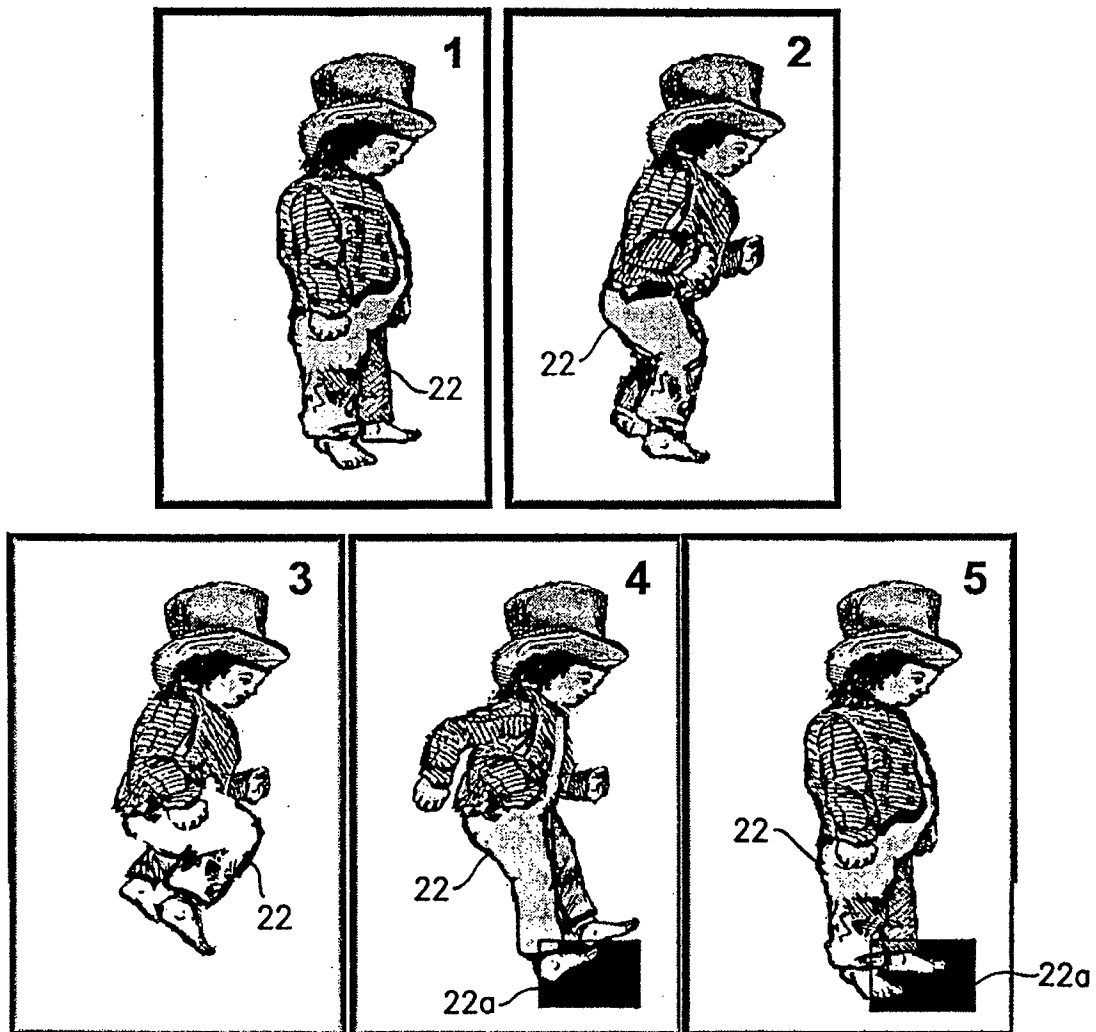
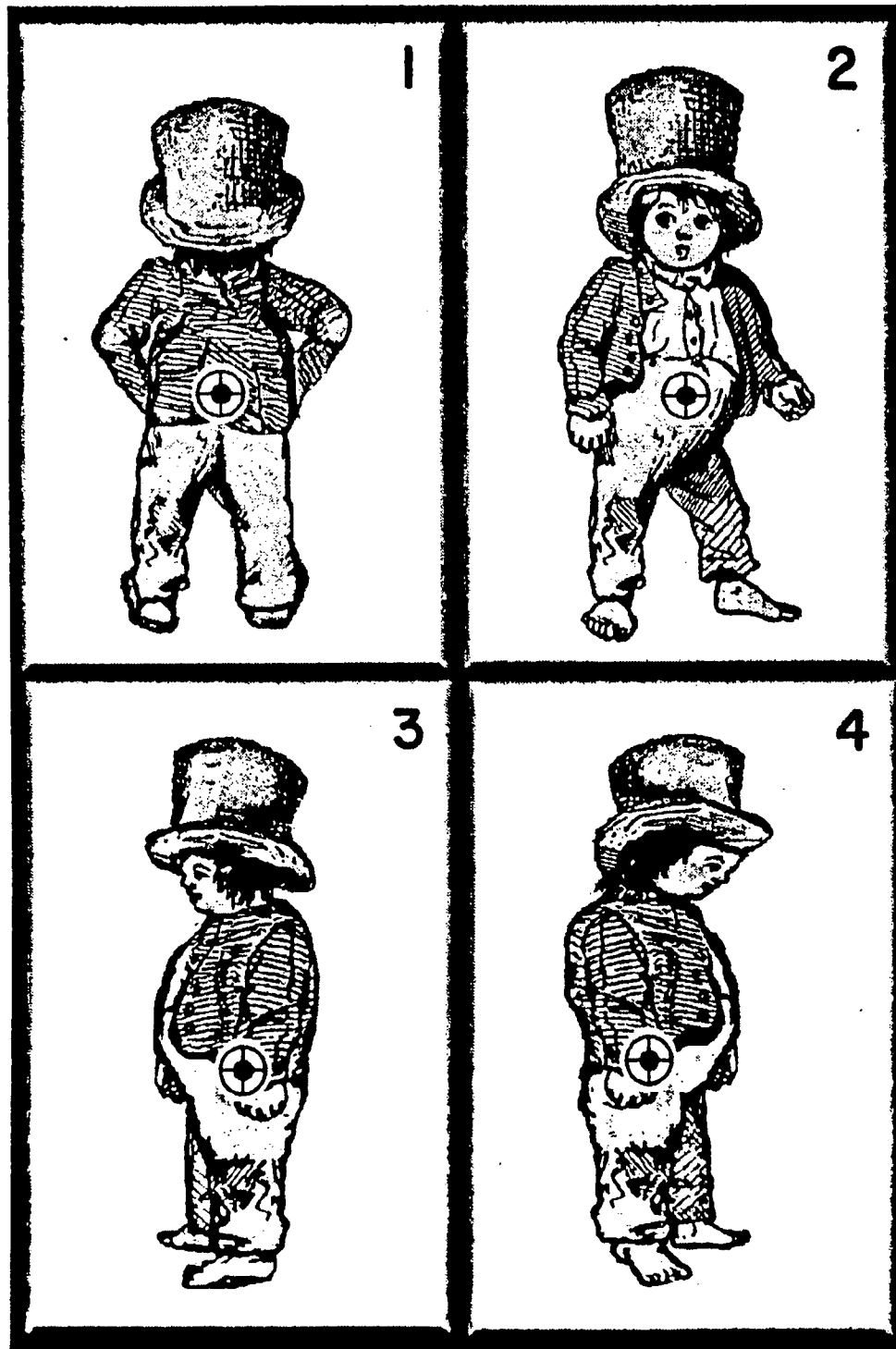


FIG. 4d

FIG. 5





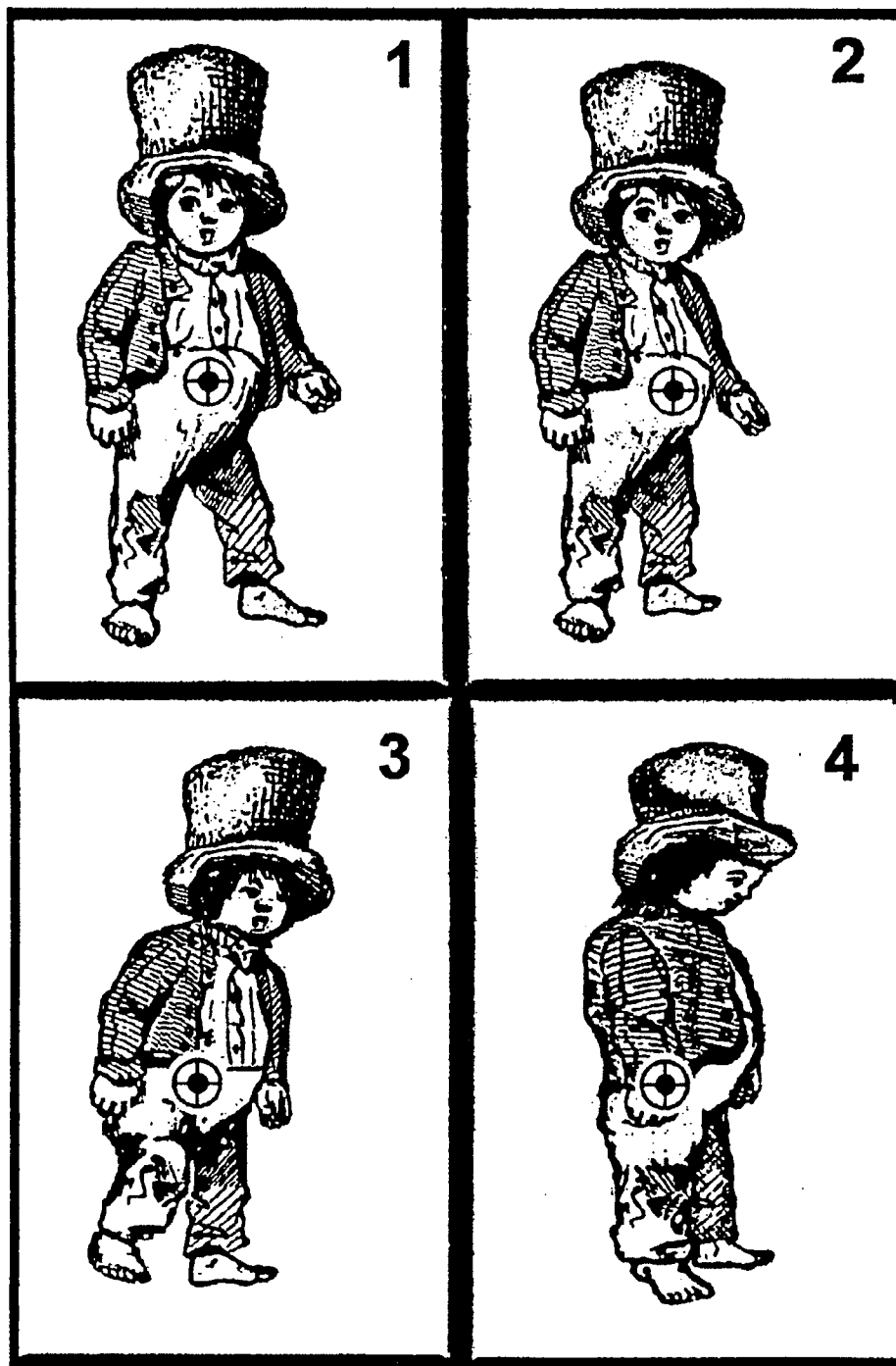


FIG. 5a

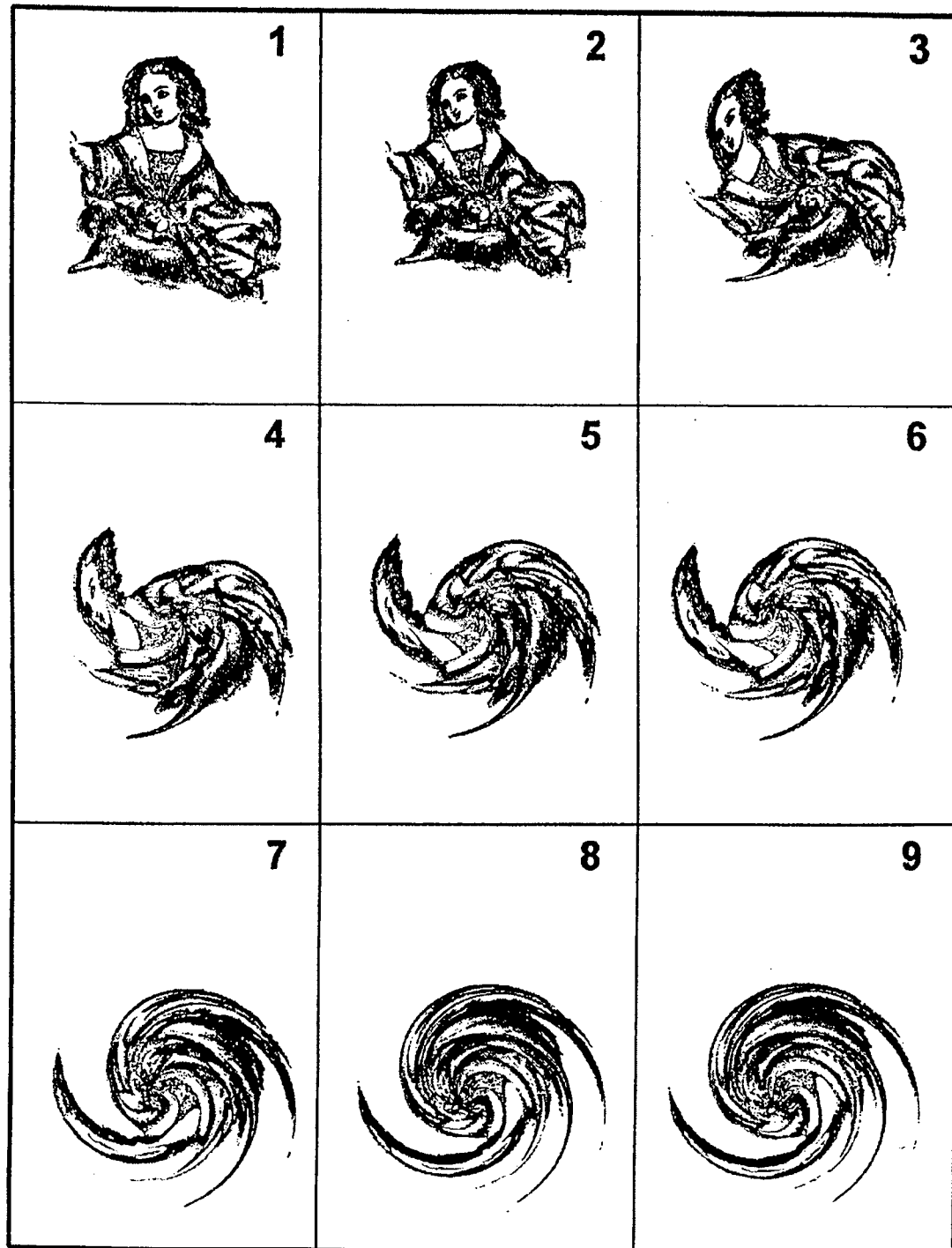


FIG. 6